1 2	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California JOSE R. GUERRERO		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General		
4	VIVIEN H. HARA State Bar No. 084589 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004		
5			
6	Telephone: (415) 703-5513 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480		
7	Attorneys for Complainant		
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9	BEFORE THE PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
11		Case Nos. 1D-2004-64021	
12	In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation Against:	OAH No. N20060300612	
13	SANDHYA DHARMADAS, P.T.	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
14	Physical Therapist License No. PT 25688,	DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
15	Respondent.		
16			
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the		
18	above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
19	<u>PARTIES</u>		
20	1. Steven K. Hartzell (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Physical		
21	Therapy Board of California. He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is		
22	represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Deputy		
23	Attorney General Vivien H. Hara.		
24	2. Respondent Sandhya Dharmadas (Respondent) is represented in this		
25	matter by Steven B. Bassoff, Esq., 1220 "S" Street, Suite 100, Sacramento, California 95814.		
26	3. On November 30, 2000, the P	hysical Therapy Board of California issued	
27	Physical Therapist License No. PT 25688 to Respondent. This license will expire on February		
28	29, 2008, unless renewed.		

JURISDICTION

4. The First Amended Accusation (Accusation) in this matter was filed before the Physical Therapy Board of California (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, on April 27, 2006. The accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on April 27, 2006. Respondent had timely filed her Notice of Defense. This Accusation is currently pending against Respondent and a copy is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- Respondent has carefully read and understands the charges and allegations in the Accusation. Respondent has also carefully read and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

Rehabilitation Center, in the years 2002 and 2003, and as to one (1) patient at Carrola Physical Therapy in 2004 as a supervising physical therapist, she failed to co-sign flow chart treatment notes of treatments provided by physical therapist assistants and/or failed to schedule and document case conferences on the patients with the physical therapist assistants, in violation of Title 16 California Code of Regulations sections 1398.44(f) and (g). Further, respondent admits that as to two (2) of these patients at Washington Outpatient Rehabilitation Center, she allowed

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physical therapist assistant Nelson M. Tumanda to provide a progress report, in violation of Title 16 California Code of Regulations section 1398.44(d). These admissions are limited to these proceedings and to any other administrative proceedings pertinent to professional licensure and shall not be admissible in any civil or criminal proceedings.

9. Respondent agrees that her Physical Therapist License is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Physical Therapy Board of California's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Physical Therapy Board of California. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Physical Therapy Board of California may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, based upon the above stipulations and recitals, that the Board, upon its approval of the Stipulation herein set forth, may without further notice, enter a Decision whereby Respondent, as holder of Physical Therapist

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License No. PT 25688, shall, by way of letter from the Board, be publicly reproved; provided, however, that said public reproval is conditional upon Respondent's full compliance with the following conditions precedent:

- 1. WRITTEN EXAMINATION ON THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

 GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY. Within 90 days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall take and pass the Board's written examination on the laws and regulations governing the practice of physical therapy in California. If Respondent fails to pass the examination, she shall be suspended form the practice of physical therapy until a repeat examination is successfully passed.
- the actual and reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution incurred by the Board in this matter in the amount of \$6,175.00. Said costs shall be reduced, however, and the remainder forgiven, if Respondent pays \$1,250.00 within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Decision. In the event respondent fails to pay within ninety (90) days of the effective date of the Decision, the full amount of costs shall be immediately due and payable. Failure to pay the ordered reimbursement, or any agreed upon payment, may constitute a violation of the probation order. The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent shall not relieve Respondent of her responsibility to reimburse the Board. If Respondent is in default of her responsibility to reimburse the Board, the Board will collect cost recovery from the Franchise Tax Board, the Internal Revenue Service, or by any other means of attachment of earned wages legally available to the Board. Failure to fulfill the obligation could also result in attachment to Department of Motor Vehicle registrations and or license renewals.
- 3. <u>FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ORDER</u>. A material breach by Respondent of this order shall constitute unprofessional conduct and shall be a basis for further disciplinary action by the Board. In such circumstances, Complainant may reinstate the Accusation in Case No. 1D-2004-64021, file an amended accusation, and/or file a supplemental accusation alleging any material breach of this order by Respondent as unprofessional conduct.

1 **OTHER MATTERS** 2 1. Upon full compliance with the conditions precedent set forth in this 3 Stipulation, Respondent's license shall be publicly reproved by way of a letter from the Board, 4 which shall be in the same form as the letter attached hereto as Exhibit B. 5 2. It is not contrary to the public interest for Respondent to practice and/or 6 perform her duties as a physical therapist because she is subject to this disciplinary order. It is 7 not the intent of the Board that this order or the fact that Respondent has been publicly reproved 8 shall be used as the sole basis for any third party payor to remove Respondent from any list of 9 approved providers. 10 **ACCEPTANCE** 11 I have carefully read and considered the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 12 Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Steven B. Bassoff. I understand the 13 stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physical Therapist License. I enter into this 14 Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree 15 to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Physical Therapy Board of California. 16 DATED: August 28, 2006 17 18 Original Signed By: SANDHYA DHARMADAS 19 Respondent 20 21 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Sandhya Dharmadas the terms 22 and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 23 Order. I approve its form and content. 24 25 DATED: September 1, 2006 26 27 Original Signed By: STEVEN B. BASSOFF, ESO., 28 Attorney for Respondent

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Physical Therapy Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs. DATED: September 4, 2006. BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California Original Signed By: VIVIEN H. HARA Deputy Attorney General Attorney for Complainant

Exhibit A First Amended Accusation No. 1D-2004-64021

BEFORE THE PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the First Amended Accusation Against:	Case No. 1D-2004-64021 OAH No. N2006030612
SANDHYA DHARMADAS, P.T.	
Respondent.	
DECISION AND	O ORDER
The attached Stipulated Settlement ar	nd Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by
the Physical Therapy Board of California, Departme	ent of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in
this matter.	
This Decision shall become effective on October 16, 2006.	
It is so ORDERED <u>September 14, 2006</u> .	
<u>Original Signed By:</u> FOR THE PHYSICAL THER	RAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS Donald A. Chu, PhD, P.T., President